

COORDINATION OF RESEARCH ON TOBACCO AND HEALTH

Mr. HULL. Would you tell us how these programs are coordinated?

Dr. KOTIN. These programs are coordinated by formal exchanges of information including reprint exchange and conferences, by informal joint meetings and contacts, personal associations and access to central repositories of scientific information. The AMA Committee for Research on Tobacco and Health and the Council for Tobacco and Research exchange listings of research projects by title and investigator. Research supported by the PHS as well as by other recognized granting agencies including various foundations and other components of Government are listed in the Scientific Information Exchange. The title of the investigation, the name of the investigator, and brief abstracts of the proposed research are available from S.I.E. In addition, joint membership by scientists on several committees provides important communication. For example, one scientist is a member of the AMA committee, a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Council for Tobacco Research (U.S.A.), and in addition serves on one of the advisory groups to the U.S. Public Health Service.

In the past, I have served on the Scientific Advisory Board of the Tobacco Research Council; I am at present on the AMA Committee on Smoking and Health and share responsibility for the NIH program in tobacco and health. In addition, my associates and I are advisers to the Department of Agriculture in relation to research support at the University of Kentucky. The lung cancer task force membership includes representatives from the Department of Agriculture, private research organizations, and the tobacco industry. Thus, coordination of these activities is carried out through formal administrative structures as well as through the exchange of information resulting from publication of research findings in the scientific literature.

Mr. HULL. Don't you believe more could be done by the Government to cooperate with the tobacco industry in the area of smoking and health?

Dr. KOTIN. This is almost a policy matter, and I am perhaps the wrong one to ask because from the days of my tobacco industry research committee membership my relationships with the industry have been so cordial that it has to be brought to my attention that there really isn't this cordiality up and down the line.

Mr. HULL. My final question is, what do you suggest to improve on the present situation?

Dr. KOTIN. In relation to industry?

Mr. HULL. Yes, and you can put that in the record if you like.

Dr. KOTIN. One, I think industry representatives are, from a technological point of view—policywise—indispensable to the development of the scientific program within the Federal Government, and I think Dr. Endicott has emphasized his successful efforts to get industry representatives to deliberate and participate in programs. The Division certainly does this in terms of the body of information the industry has. It is, first, not only deeper than available from other sources, but it can provide an effective base from which we can build so there will be as little duplication as one can achieve.

Mr. HULL. Thank you, Doctor.

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